

25. WILTON PLACE.

May 24/70 S.W.

My dear Gray

I have been so very much
occupied of late that I find I have
omitted to thank you for the promptitude
with which you responded to my
queries - and to beg you also to
thank G. & F. Verill and M. Desguery
for their communications. I fear
you will find I have profited very
little from all this and not made
the use & fit I ought to have done
but the fact is I am not strong enough
to work as I used to do and have been
so much pre-occupied to finish up the
5th vol. of my Australian Flora that
I have been obliged to give up the
greater part of the Address I had
planned and have only put together
a few notes in order to say something
but as it is I will read you the

Adonep which I shall have to read
this afternoon as soon as it is
printed. The Flora Australiensis vol 1
is about two-thirds printed and I hope
to get it finished by the time I leave
town in July and will take care to
send you your copy. It brings me
down to the end of Proteaceae only
the remaining Monocotyledons
must stand over to the next - but
before I undertake that I hope to
do the Compositae for genera if
health and strength allowed. Hooker
has finished his British Flora and
is now at Repentilly for Broderick
after which I hope he too will
stick to genera Plantarum.

After a very trying winter
- not from severe frost but from
the sudden alternations from mild
or hot days to bitter cold winds of
long duration - we are getting better

weather at last but very dry
the flowering of the fruit trees has
been finer than I ever remember
it but cattle-pod and in some
places wheat has suffered per-
want of rain. Mr Dentham has
been better than usual this winter.
I have been plagued by a return
of sciatica brought on one bitter
cold February day but am now getting
over it again. I trust Mr Gray
is improving I am not sure that
she would have been benefitted
by spending the winter in England
for it has not been a generally
healthy one.

I am glad to hear you are
preparing your Oregonian - I am
looking anxiously forward however
to some pendula N. American
Flora from you

Yours ever sincerely
George Dentham